ATTENTION PHARMACY PROVIDERS

DUE TO PROVIDER & VENDOR CONCERNS REGARDING HIPAA COMPLIANCY

THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES HAS POSTPONED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NCPDP 5.1 POS AND BATCH 1.1 UNTIL JULY 1, 2003

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003, ONLY PHARMACY CLAIMS IN THE HIPAA COMPLIANT NCPDP 5.1 POS AND BATCH 1.1 PROTOCOLS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

TRANSACTIONS USING PRIOR NCPDP VERSIONS AND NON-HIPAA STANDARD ELECTRONIC FORMATS WILL NOT BE SUPPORTED AFTER JULY 1, 2003.

Important Dates:

April 15, 2003:	Vendors begin certification with Web MD begins April 15, 2003
May 1, 2002	Receipt of Certification Package for EDS testing.
June 2, 2003	First Day of Certification Testing Begins
June 27, 2003	Last Day of Certification Testing
June 30, 2003	Last Day to submit NCPDP 3.2C Transactions
July 1, 2003	First day to submit NCPDP 5.1 transactions

Full details for testing can be obtained in the *HIPAA Vendor/Provider/Payer Testing and Certification Plan NCPDP Version 5.1 Pharmacy Claims and Eligibility Verification Plan* located at *www.dhs.state.ri.us/dhs/hipaa/ncpdptestinfo.htm*

Steps for Successful Testing:

1. **Complete Web MD Testing:** *Contact Ed Saunders, Vendor Certification Specialist, of WebMD at 888-869-4369 selection 6, in order to receive specific and detailed testing instructions.*

2. **Complete and return to EDS, the NCPDP Testing Registration Form:** *Following successful testing with WebMD, complete the MMIS/EDS NCPDP 5.1 HIPAA Certification Registration form located at www.dhs.state.ri.us/dhs/hipaa/ncpdptestinfo.htm*

3. **Obtain Certification Package for NCPDP 5.1 Implementation**. *Located at www.dhs.state.ri.us/dhs/hipaa/ncpdptestinfo.htm and includes Rhode Island Specific Medical Assistance HIPAA NCPDP Version 1.1 Batch and 5.1Implementation Guidelines, Test Cases, and Verification Statement.*

4. **Obtain Vendor Specific Test Recipients for Beta Testing:** *After May 1, 2003 and after successful testing with WebMD, obtain a listing of test recipients specifically designed for your organization, from Ingelcia Jiran at (401) 784-3818 or ingelcia.jiran@eds.com.*

5. **Commence with Beta Testing:** *Using the specifications provided, the vendor prepares their application for testing. EDS / MMIS Testing system will be available 24 hrs. /day beginning Monday, June 2, 2003 – Friday, June 27, 2003.*

6. **Certify testing and provide Vendor statement of certification to EDS.** *EDS Customer support of testing is available M-F 8:00 – 4:30. Contact Ingelcia Jiran directly at (401) 784-3818 or through E-Mail at ingelcia.jiran@eds.com.*